

REMARKS

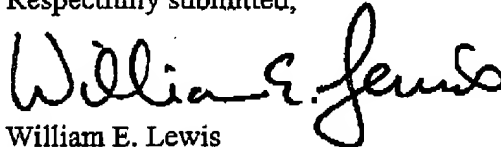
In response to a telephone interview initiated by Examiner Steelman on August 1, 2005, Applicants propose amending the claims, in the manner indicated above, in a sincere effort to move the present case through to issuance.

In particular, Applicants propose: (i) amending independent claims 1 and 6; and (ii) canceling claims 4, 5, 10 and 13 without prejudice.

Based on the above-mentioned telephone interview, it is Applicants' understanding that Examiner Steelman will enter the above amendments by way of an Examiner's Amendment.

In view of the above, Applicants believe that the application, including pending claims 1, 3, 6-9, 11, 12, 48 and 49, is in condition for allowance, and respectfully request favorable reconsideration.

Respectfully submitted,



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